



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held September 23, 2008, the Board took the following action:

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The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisor Yaroslavsky:

“On May 15, 2008, the California Supreme Court issued a landmark decision affirming the right of same-sex couples to equal access to civil marriage. In its opinion, the Court stated, ‘These core substantive rights include, most fundamentally, the opportunity of an individual to establish - with the person with whom the individual has chosen to share his or her - life, an officially recognized and protected family possessing mutual rights and responsibilities and entitled to the same respect and dignity accorded a union traditionally designated as marriage. As past cases establish, the substantive right of two adults who share a loving relationship to join together to establish an officially recognized family of their own - and, if the couple chooses, to raise children within that family - constitutes a vitally important attribute of the fundamental interest in liberty and personal autonomy that the California Constitution secures to all persons for the benefit of both the individual and society.’”

“Throughout more than four decades, our Nation has enacted laws, adopted policies and resolved court cases in a manner consistent with ending discrimination and extending civil rights, conferring equal protection under the law and guaranteeing due process to all citizens of the United States. The State of California has followed suit and in some cases commendably taken a lead in advancing the broad goals of full legal protection and equality of opportunity for all its residents.

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“Proposition 8 is a proposed constitutional amendment on the November 4, 2008 General Election ballot aimed at overturning the State Supreme Court ruling on same-sex marriages. Its passage would enshrine discrimination and denial of civil rights into the State Constitution, potentially nullify the unions of thousands of newly-married same-sex couples and curtail the rights of millions of same-sex partners to marry in the future.

“This measure represents a tragic and unnecessary reversal of decades of incremental progress in the struggle to achieve and secure full civil rights for all, and as such, it should be strongly opposed.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Burke, unanimously carried (Supervisors Knabe and Antonovich being absent), the Board took the following actions:

1. Went on record in opposition to Proposition 8, a proposed constitutional amendment on the November 4, 2008 General Election Ballot aimed at overturning the State Supreme Court ruling on same-sex marriages; and
2. Urged voters to reject and defeat this divisive, unnecessary and socially destructive measure.

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